

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 IZMIR 00132 01 OF 02 062246Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 /066 W
-----024393 062313Z /75

R 061330Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL IZMIR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2058
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 IZMIR 132

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, TU
SUBJECT: IZMIR JUSTICE PARTY LEADERSHIP CHALLENGING
PARTY TO SEEK BROADENED BASE
REF: IZMIR 058
1. BEGIN SUMMARY. CONFLICT WITHIN THE IZMIR PROVINCIAL
JUSTICE PARTY (JP) ORGANIZATION IS BEING GIVEN PROMINENT
ATTENTION IN THE LOCAL PRESS. THE CONTROVERSY CENTERS
UPON A RECENT "SECRET" SEMINAR FOR LOCAL LEADERS OSTENSIBLY
DESIGNED TO DISCUSS NEW APPROACHES FOR THE JP ON LIGHT OF
THE PARTY'S OPPOSITION STATUS AND FALLING VOTER APPEAL.
AT THIS MEETING SOME SPEAKERS CALLED FOR A REVITALIZATION

PAGE 2RUFLAEA4664 C O N F I D E N T I A L
OF THE PARTY AND RETURN TO THE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC VALUES
FOUND IN THE PARTIES CONSTITUTION. DISSIDENTS UNHAPPY
WITH THE PRESENT PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP, AS WELL AS JP
MEMBERS WHO RESENT THE "LEFTIST" LABEL GIVEN TO THE JP
BY SOME SEMINAR SPEAKERS AND THOSE WHO VIEW THE SEMINAR
AS ANTI-DEMIREL, HAVE ATTACKED THE SEMINAR, AND THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 IZMIR 00132 01 OF 02 062246Z

PRESENT PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP. THREE MEMBERS OF THE
IZMIR JP ADMINSTRATIVE BOARD HAVE RESIGNED. THUS FAR,
THE JP CENTRAL LEADERSHIP SEEMS TO BE KEEPING ITS DISTANCE,
ALTHOUGH THE SEMINAR APPEARS TO BE THE FIRST STEP IN
CHALLENGING THE PRESENT JP CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS' LEADER-
SHIP. THE ULTIMATE TARGET MAY BE DEMIREL. END SUMMARY.
2. DURING THE MARCH 25-26 WEEKEND, THE IZMIR PROVINCIAL

JP ORGANIZATION HELD AT SIFNE A SEMINAR ENTITLED, "NEW APPROACHES IN PARTY WORK". IN ADDITION TO PROVINCIAL AND COUNTY LEADERS, SEVERAL NATIONAL PARTY FIGURES, INCLUDING SECRETARY GENERAL NAHIT MENTESE AND DEPUTY PRESIDENT GENERAL SADETTIN BILGIC, ATTENDED. HAYRETTIN YORGANCIOGLU, THE IZMIR PROVINCIAL JP PRESIDENT, WHO INITIATED THE MEETING, EXPLAINED BEFORE THE MEETING THAT

PAGE 3 RUFLAEA4664 C O N F I D E N T I A L

ITS OBJECTIVES WERE TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO THE RANK AND FILE, TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE OPPOSITION TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, AND TO CONVINCE THE PEOPLE THAT THE JP IS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. HIS ASSURANCES THAT THE SEMINAR WAS NOT A CHALLENGE TO THE PRESENT JP LEADERSHIP WERE SOMEWHAT LESS CONVINCING SINCE THE MEETING WAS "SECRET" (CLOSED TO ALL BUT JP LEADERS) AND HE CITED THE NEED TO RAPIDLY ELIMINATE PAST MISTAKES TO PREVENT THE SINKING OF THE JP.

3. SINCE THE SIFNE MEETING WAS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, REPORTS OF WHAT WAULSAID WERE FRAGMENTARY AND LARGELY UNCONFIRMED. SEVERAL THEMES, HOWEVER, SEEMED TO PREDOMINATE. A NUMBER OF SPEAKERS, INCLUDING SINASI ERTAN (THE JP CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF IZMIR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 IZMIR 00132 01 OF 02 062246Z

ASSEMBLY OF THE AEGEAN CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY) AND CENTRAL COUNTY (MERKEZ ILCE) PRESIDENT YAVUZ ONURSAL DEFENDED THE IDEA THAT ACCORDING TO ITS CONSTITUTION THE JP IS A SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, NOT A RIGHTIST PARTY, AND THAT JP LEADERS SHOULD HAVE THE COURAGE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THIS. WITHOUT

PAGE 4 RUFLAEA4664 C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONTRADICTING THIS THEME, OTHER SPEAKERS, INCLUDING MENTESE, DISTINGUISHED THE JP FROM THE "NATIONALISM" OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PARTY (NAP) AND ARGUED THAT IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD THE JP AGAIN FORM A COALITION WITH THE NAP AND NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP). OTHER SPEAKERS CITING POSSIBLE EARLY GENERAL ELECTIONS AND THE 1979 PARTIAL SENATORIAL ELECTIONS, CALLED ON THE JP TO ESTABLISH NEW CITY (INCLUDING GECEKONDU) AND RURAL POLICIES AND TO MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO ATTRACT YOUTH. IN ADDITION, CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED ABOUT THE JP'S FLAGGING APPEAL AMONG CIVIL SERVANTS TRADESMEN, AND WORKERS.

4. WHILE THE LOCAL GENERALLY PRO-JP PRESS PLAYED UP THE THEME OF UNITY DURING THE MEETING, EVEN CITING THE UNITY

BETWEEN NAILI ERDIN (FORMER MINISTER OF LABOR AND EDUCATION) AND CEMAL TERCAN (PRESIDENT GENERAL OF THE IZMIR ARTISANS AND TRADESMEN'S ASSOCIATION) WHO HAD BEEN KNOWN AS LEADERS OF OPPOSING FACTIONS, THE FACADE OF TOGETHERNESS SOON BROKE DOWN. THREE MEMBERS OF THE IZMIR JP ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD RESIGNED, PROTESTING THE LABELLING OF THE PARTY AS "LEFTIST" AND COMPLAINING TO DEMIREL.

PAGE 5 RUFLAEA4664 C O N F I D E N T I A L

FORMER JP YOUTH BRANCH PRESIDENT KAPANCIOGLU ACCUSED THE IZMIR JP YJP OF BEING ANTI-DEMIREL. TO COUNTER THESE ACCUSATIONS YORGANCIOGLU AND THE 19 IZMIR COUNTY PRESIDENTS HELD CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 IZMIR 00132 01 OF 02 062246Z

A PRESS CONFERENCE ON APRIL 4 TO ASSERT THAT THE ONLY PURPOSE OF THE SIFNE MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS NEW IDEAS AND APPROACHES. NOTHING WAS SAID CONCERNING THEIR SECRETARY GENERAL WHO THEY CONTINUE TO SUPPORT. THE GROUP ALSO DECLARED THAT THOSE WHO SAID THE MEETING WAS ANTI-DEMIREL WERE DIVIDING THE PARTY.

5. IN A MEETING WITH CONGEN OFFICER FIVE DAYS AFTER THE SEMINAR, ERTAN (WHO IS PRINCIPALLY A SPOKESMAN FOR JP BUSINESSMEN) EXPLAINED THAT THERE HAS BEEN A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN THE OUTLOOK OF THE TURKISH PEOPLE AND THEY ARE NOW CAPABLE OF MAKING SHARP JUDGEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO PARTY PROMISES AND PERFORMANCES. THE JP IS LOSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE INTELLECTUALS, WORKERS AND VILLAGERS, AND AS A RESULT HE CALLED UPON THE JP AT THE SEMINAR TO REGAIN ITS STRENGTH THROUGH A NEW APPEAL BASED ON THE MODERATE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC ROOTS OF THE PARTY. IT HAS BEEN THE NEGLECT OF THESE ROOTS WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE LOSS OF CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 6 RUFLAEA4664 C O N F I D E N T I A L

DENCE IN THE JP AMONG THE PEOPLE. WHILE VILLAGERS CONTINUE TO REMAIN LOYAL TO THE JP, A NEW POLICY FOR THE CITIES IS NEEDED. ERTAN EXPLAINED THAT NO SPEAKERS ATTACKED DEMIREL SINCE FOR THE PRESENT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE. NEVERTHELESS, ACCORDING TO ERTAN, CHANGES IN THE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 IZMIR 00132 02 OF 02 062245Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 /066 W
-----024337 062312Z /75

R 061330Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL IZMIR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2059
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 IZMIR 132
JP GENERAL HEADQUARTERS MUST BE MADE, AND NEW BLOOD IN-
TRODUCED. THE TEST FOR DEMIREL WILL THEN BE THE JP'S
SHOWING IN THE 1979 PARTIAL SENATORIAL ELECTIONS. IF
HE FAILS, "THERE IS NO POWER IN TURKEY WHICH CAN KEEP
DEMIREL AS SECRETARY GENERAL". ON THE OTHER HAND, ERTAN
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT YORGANCIOGLU AND HIS SUPPORTERS
MIGHT NOT SUCCEED IN HOLDING ONTO POWER IN THE IZMIR JP
ORGANIZATION, AND THUS THE REFORM IMPULSE MIGHT BE LOST.
6. BEGIN COMMENT. THE SIFNE SEMINAR APPEARS TO BE A
LOGICAL EXTENSION OF THE VIEWS YORGANCIOGLU OUTLINED
IN REFTTEL. HIS VIEWS ARE MIRRORED BY MANY IN THE IZMIR
JP WHO ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE JP'S CONTINUALLY

PAGE 2 RUFLAEA4665 C O N F I D E N T I A L
ERODING BASE IN THE CITIES AND AMONG THE INTELLECTUALS.
THESE PEOPLE IN CALLING FOR NEW BLOOD (PARTICULARLY AN
APPEAL TO YOUTH AND WORKERS), BELIEVE THAT CHANGE CAN ONLY
COME ABOUT ONCE CHANGES ARE MADE AT GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.
THERE SEEMS A WILLINGNESS TO TRY TO WIN OVER DEMIREL TO
THEIR PHILOSOPHY, BUT THEY WILL PREPARE A CHALLENGE TO
HIS LEADERSHIP IF THE PARTY KEEPS SLIPPING. NATURALLY,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 IZMIR 00132 02 OF 02 062245Z

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, AS WELL AS DEMIREL, MAY REACT BY
TRYING TO UNDERMINE THE PRESENT IZMIR JP LEADERSHIP.
BEHIND THE IZMIR JP'S ATTEMPT TO FORCE A NEW APPROACH ON
THE PARTY ARE MANY DYNAMIC AND INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE. IF
THEIR EFFORTS FAIL, MANY TRADITIONAL JP SUPPORTERS MAY
LOOK TO OTHER PARTIES. END COMMENT.
MOFFETT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL LEADERS, SEMINARS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978IZMIR00132
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780149-0782
Format: TEL
From: IZMIR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780487/aaaacvib.tel
Line Count: 224
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d4955cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 IZMIR 58
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3057443
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IZMIR JUSTICE PARTY LEADERSHIP CHALLENGING PARTY TO SEEK BROADENED BASE
TAGS: PINT, TU, JP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d4955cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014